

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 30-34 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-8 stand rejected. Claim 1 has been amended and new claims 30-34 has been added. Support for the amendments and new claims may be found at, for example, paragraphs 70-72, 32, 33, 53, and 67, and Figures 3 and 4 of the published application (US 2004/0152511 A1). No new matter has been added.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope, Applicants are not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations herein are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3 and 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tracy; Daniel A. (US 5,116,055 A, hereinafter “Tracy”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Tracy does not describe or suggest a system for managing a progressive jackpot, wherein a second gaming system provides an untrusted third-party game of chance as recited in claim 1. For example, Tracy does not describe or suggest validating the random outcome by comparing the random outcome to a winning outcome of the untrusted third-party game in accordance with the game model of the untrusted game, as claimed.

The untrusted third-party game is described at, for example, paragraph [0033] of the published application, reproduced here:

[0033] However, it is also possible to support games implemented using 3rd party software whose source code and/or whose operation cannot be necessarily trusted or verified. In this case, the gaming network provider can also provide ROG facilities which the third party software would use. In the case of a reported progressive jackpot win, the ROG log can be examined, along with the game model documentation provided when a game is to be added to the network to verify and validate the win. The game model documentation describes how ROG results map to game

outcomes, making win verification simple. For example, if the game model documentation indicates that a progressive paying outcome occurs for the ROG outcome $\{x=1, y=1, z=1\}$ where values for x, y and z can each be between 1 and 256, then it is simple to determine whether or not the ROG produced and logged a result of $\{x=1, y=1, z=1\}$ for the game in the game system which subsequently reported a winning jackpot claim.

Thus claim 1's features for including untrusted games in the progressive game has benefits such as allowing a gaming establishment to provide players with games based on third-party game whose source code and/or whose operation cannot be necessarily trusted or verified.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Tracy does not describe or suggest at least the aforementioned features of claim 1, and the section 103 rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-3 and 6-9 depend from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claims 2-3 and 6-9 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3 and 6-9 are also patentable over Tracy.

Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tracy in view of Torango; Lawrence J. (US 6,241,608 B1, hereinafter "Torango").

Claims 4-5 depend from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claims 4-5 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-5 are also patentable over Tracy. Torango is not cited to cure the deficiencies of Tracy identified above with respect claim 1, and Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-5 are patentable over the cited combination of Tracy and Torango.

New dependent claims 30 and 31 depend from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claims 30 and 31 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 30 and 31 are also patentable over Tracy.

New independent claim 32 recites features at least similar to the aforementioned features of claim 1, including, for example, the progressive management device being coupled by the interface to a third-party gaming system that provides an untrusted game of chance, and wherein the progressive management device is further operable to validate the win by comparing the random outcome to a winning outcome of the untrusted game in accordance with the game

model. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 32 is patentable over Tracy for at least the reasons given above.

New dependent claims 33 and 34 depend from independent claim 32. When the recitations of claims 33 and 34 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 32, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 33 and 34 are also patentable over Tracy.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, including any extension fees, which may be required or credit any overpayment directly to the account of the undersigned, No. 50-4480 (Order No. IGT1P395).

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Respectfully submitted,
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